



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/010,877	11/08/2001	Tsuyoshi Kano	7217/65961	7475
530	7590	06/14/2007	EXAMINER:	
LERNER, DAVID, LITTENBERG, KRUMHOLZ & MENTLIK 600 SOUTH AVENUE WEST WESTFIELD, NJ 07090			HOSSAIN, FARZANA E	
		ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	
		2623		
		MAIL DATE		DELIVERY MODE
		06/14/2007		PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/010,877	KANO, TSUYOSHI
	Examiner Farzana E. Hossain	Art Unit 2623

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 20 March 2007.
 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 8-13 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 8-13 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on 08 November 2001 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date 05/15/2007.

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application
 6) Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. This office action is in response to communications filed 03/20/2006. Claims 1-7 are cancelled. Claims 8 and 11 are amended. Claims, 9, 10, 12 and 13 have been previously presented.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 8-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ivanyi (US 6,286,140) in view of Del Sesto et al (US 6,530,082 and hereafter referred to as "Delsesto") and McClard (US 6,438,752 and hereafter referred to as "Mcclard") and Ozer et al (US 6,704,929 and hereafter referred to as "Ozer").

Regarding Claims 8 and 11, Ivanyi discloses a viewing and listening information computing apparatus (Figure 1, 4, Figure 4) comprising: reception state management means for obtaining a reception log of at least one broadcast receiver (Figure 1, 4, Figure 2, 45, Figure 3, 28-31, Column 7, lines 64-67, Column 8, lines 1-5); a database in which the obtained reception log and program information concerning a broadcast program are recorded (Figure 1, 4, Figure 4, 56, Column 10, lines 1-8, Figure 5, 90); and viewing and listening information management means (Figure 4, 41) for computing viewing and listening information which is information concerning viewing and/or listening based on the reception log and the program information read from the database (Column 9, lines 25-40, lines 66-67, Column 10, lines 1-8, lines 59-65). Ivanyi discloses that the television viewer behavior is monitored for channel being viewed (Column 9, lines 66-67, Column 1-10). Ivanyi is silent on the reception state management means for obtaining a receiver ID, of at least one broadcast receiver, a database in which receiver ID is recorded, viewing and listening management means for computing viewing and listening information based on receiver ID read from the database, predetermined time a channel and/or program is viewed and to not record a reception in the reception log in the storage unit when the receiving unit does not continuously receive a channel and/or a program for at least the predetermined period,

and that the viewing and listening information includes viewer preferences for each segment of a program.

Delsesto disclose a reception state management means for obtaining a reception log or response packet and a receiver ID of at least one broadcast receiver (Figure 5, Column 15, lines 26-39, Column 13, lines 32-39, Column 9, lines 66-67, Column 10, lines 1-42), a database in which the reception log and receiver ID are recorded, and viewing and listening management means for computing viewing and listening information which is information concerning viewing and listening based on the reception log or response packet, the receiver ID read from the database (Column 15, lines 26-54). Mcclard discloses a broadcast receiver (Figure 3, 38) comprising: a reception of at least one broadcast receiver only when the only one broadcast receiver continuously receives one of a channel (Column 5, lines 52-65) and a program (Column 5, lines 52-65) for at least a predetermined period (Column 5, lines 52-65) and does not record a reception in the reception log in the storage unit when the receiving unit does not continuously receive a channel and/or a program for at least the predetermined period or only records if the channel remained tuned for a predetermined period (Column 5, lines 52-65). Ozer discloses ~~that and~~ that the viewing and listening information includes viewer preferences for each segment of a program or the length of time of the programming viewer and the portion of the program not viewed (Column 8, lines 59-67, Column 9, lines 1-8).

Therefore, it would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to modify Ivanyi to include a reception state management means for obtaining a receiver

ID of at least one broadcast receiver (Figure 5, Column 15, lines 26-39, Column 13, lines 32-39, Column 9, lines 66-67, Column 10, lines 1-42), a database in which the receiver ID are recorded, and viewing and listening management means for computing viewing and listening information which is information concerning viewing and listening based on the receiver ID read from the database (Column 15, lines 26-54) as taught by Delsesto in order to accurately monitor of viewer ship and usage (Column 1, lines 28-65) as disclosed by Delsesto. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Ivanyi to include that a reception of at least one broadcast receiver only when the only one broadcast receiver continuously receives one of a channel (Column 5, lines 52-65) and a program (Column 5, lines 52-65) for at least a predetermined period (Column 5, lines 52-65) and does not record a reception in the reception log in the storage unit when the receiving unit does not continuously receive a channel and/or a program for at least the predetermined period or only records if the channel remained tuned for a predetermined period (Column 5, lines 52-65) as taught by Mcclard in order to provide an easier way for users to browse through programs to programs that they find interesting (Column 2, lines 1-7) as disclosed by Mcclard. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Ivanyi to include the viewing and listening information includes viewer preferences for each segment of a program (Column 8, lines 59-67, Column 9, lines 1-8) as taught by Ozer in order to provide a way to find out a audience share of a television programs to determine program schedules,

advertising schemes, price rates for airtime, and retention or termination of programs (Column 1, lines 23-31) as disclosed by Ozer.

Regarding Claims 9 and 12, Ivanyi, Delsesto, Mcclard and Ozer disclose all the limitations of Claims 8 and 11 respectively. Ivanyi discloses that the reception log includes one of channel received by the broadcast receiver (Column 10, line 1, Column 7, lines 19-20), program identification information or detailed information in reference to a program or commercial (Column 10, lines 59-65, Column 11, lines 1-12) and reception period information (Column 8, lines 1-25, Column 10, lines 1-8); and the viewing and listening information to be computed includes an audience rating for one of a predetermined channel (Column 9, lines 38-40) and program (Column 10, lines 59-64, Column 11, lines 1-12).

Regarding Claims 10 and 13, Ivanyi, Delsesto, Mcclard and Ozer disclose all the limitations of Claims 8 and 11 respectively. Ivanyi discloses that the reception log includes one of a channel received by the broadcast receiver (Column 10, line 1, Column 7, lines 19-20) and program identification information or detailed information in reference to a program or commercial (Column 10, lines 59-65, Column 11, lines 1-12) and reception period information (Column 8, lines 1-25, Column 10, lines 1-8); and the viewing and listening information to be computed includes a non-viewing and non-listening rating for one of a predetermined channel or program or the central computer processes polling information for a large group of viewers to obtain statistical information about viewer behavior for demographic and geographic groups, which reads

on viewers and non viewers being polled on programs/channels viewed (Column 9, lines 34-40, Column 10, lines 53-67, Column 11, lines 1-24).

Conclusion

5. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Farzana E. Hossain whose telephone number is 571-272-5943. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday 8:00 am to 4:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Christopher Kelley can be reached on 571-272-7331. The fax phone

Art Unit: 2623

number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

FEH
May 29, 2007


SCOTT E. BELIVEAU
PRIMARY PATENT EXAMINER